



LIBRARY

Keswick
Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

Charles A. Mason, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1950.

Together with the Summary of Work
of the Sanitary Inspector.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b2953009x>

Keswick
Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

Charles A. Mason, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1950.

Together with the Summary of Work
of the Sanitary Inspector.

Keswick Urban District Council.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1950, which has been drawn up in accordance with Circular 1961 of the Ministry of Health, dated 16th February, 1940, and the Registrar-General's Memorandum SD/54, received June, 1951, as directed.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES A. MASON,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres), 1,272.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid 1950) 4,680 (see page 4).

Number of inhabited houses (end 1950), according to rate books, 1,537.

Rateable Value, £36,002.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate, £145 19s. 11d.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

| | Total. | M. | F. | |
|--------------------------|--------|----|----|--|
| Live Births { Legitimate | 49 | 27 | 22 | Live Birth Rate (R.-G.) 11·3 per 1,000 of the population. |
| \ Illegitimate | 4 | 1 | 3 | |
| Still Births | 1 | 1 | 0 | Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births, 18·51. |

| | Total. | M. | F. | |
|--------|--------|----|----|--|
| Deaths | 83 | 35 | 48 | Crude Death Rate (R.-G.) 17·7 per 1,000 of estimated resident civilian population. |

Maternal Mortality :—

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Childbirth :

| | Deaths. | Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births |
|------------------------|---------|--|
| Puerperal Sepsis | 0 | nil. |
| Other Puerperal Causes | 0 | nil. |
| | — | — |
| Total | 0 | nil. |

Infantile Mortality :—

| | | | | |
|---|--------------|-----|-----|------|
| Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Death Rate „ „ „ „ | (approx.) :— | | | |
| All infants per 1,000 live births | „ | ... | ... | 19 |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births | „ | ... | ... | nil. |
| Illegitimate „ illegitimate „ „ | „ | ... | ... | 250 |
| Deaths from Measles (all ages) | ... | ... | 0 | |
| „ Whooping Cough (all ages) | ... | ... | 0 | |
| „ Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea | ... | ... | 0 | |
| „ Cancer | ... | ... | 10 | |

KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1950.

The area of the district in statute acres (land and inland water) is 1,272.

Social conditions and local industries remain as hitherto.

Meteorological Conditions :—These are shown in a report by Mr. Tom Wilson, Official Observer to the Meteorological Office and Air Ministry, and given at the end of this report.

POPULATION.

The population figure of 4,680 is given for the year 1950 by the Registrar-General and called by him the "Home Population" (i.e., including members of the armed forces stationed in the area); on this figure the birth and death rates and the incidence of notifiable diseases are based.

N.B.—The population figure for 1949 was 4,650 and non-civilians were excluded.

VITAL STATISTICS—BIRTHS.

LIVE BIRTHS.—There were 53 Live Births (28 males and 25 females registered as belonging to the district; of these 4 (1m. and 3f.) were illegitimate.

The Live Birth Rate was accordingly 11·3 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 59 births and a rate of 12·6 for the previous year.

Comparisons may be given as follows :—

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Birth Rates, 1950—Cumberland | ... | ... | ... | 17·6 |
| Rural Districts of Cumberland... | | | ... | 17·4 |
| Urban Districts of Cumberland | | | ... | 18·0 |
| England and Wales... | | ... | ... | 15·8 |
| Keswick Urban District | | | ... | 11·3 |

The four illegitimate births make the percentage of Illegitimate Live Births 7·5, as compared with 3 illegitimate births, with a percentage of 5·08 in 1949.

As regards Births and Deaths the Registrar-General has supplied Area Comparability Factors—these allow for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas and are used for comparing birth rates and death rates with those in other areas. The factor for births is 1·00, the birth rate, therefore, remaining at 11·3.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1950.

| CAUSES OF DEATH. | | | | | | Male. | Females |
|---|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|---------|
| ALL CAUSES ... | | | | | | 35 | 48 |
| 1. | Tuberculosis, Respiratory | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... |
| 2. | Tuberculosis, Other | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 3. | Syphilitic Disease | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 4. | Diphtheria | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 5. | Whooping Cough | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 6. | Meningo-coccal infections | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 7. | Acute Poliomyelitis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 8. | Measles | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 9. | Other infective and parasitic diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... |
| 10. | Malignant neoplasm, stomach | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 3 |
| 11. | „ „ lung, bronchus | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... |
| 12. | „ „ breast | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| 13. | Uterus | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| 14. | Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| 15. | Leukæmia, aleukæmia | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 16. | Diabetes | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 17. | Vascular lesions of nervous system | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 9 |
| 18. | Coronary disease, angina | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 1 |
| 19. | Hypertension with heart disease... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 4 |
| 20. | Other heart disease | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 | 16 |
| 21. | Other circulatory disease | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... |
| 22. | Influenza | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 |
| 23. | Pneumonia | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| 24. | Bronchitis | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| 25. | Other diseases of respiratory system | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| 26. | Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| 27. | Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 28. | Nephritis and nephrosis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| 29. | Hyperplasia of prostate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... |
| 30. | Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 31. | Congenital Malformations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 32. | Other defined and ill-defined diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| 33. | Motor vehicle accidents | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... |
| 34. | All other accidents | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 35. | Suicide | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... |
| 36. | Homicide and operations of war... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Deaths of infants under 1 year of age—Total | | | | | | ... | 1 |
| Legitimate | | | | | | ... | ... |
| Illegitimate | | | | | | ... | 1 |

| | | | | | Males. | Females. |
|--|---|--------------|-----|-----|--------|----------|
| LIVE BIRTHS | { | TOTAL ... | ... | ... | 28 | 25 |
| | | Legitimate | ... | ... | 27 | 22 |
| | | Illegitimate | ... | ... | 1 | 3 |
| STILL BIRTHS | { | TOTAL ... | ... | ... | 1 | — |
| | | Legitimate | ... | ... | 1 | — |
| | | Illegitimate | ... | ... | — | — |
| POPULATION (for Births and Deaths)—1950—R.-G.) | | | | | ... | 4,680 |

STILL BIRTHS.—One still birth was registered, so that the Still Birth Rate therefore, was 0·21 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with nil. in 1949. (The rate for all England and Wales was 0·37).

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births was 18·51, as compared with nil. in 1949.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered as belonging to Keswick was 83 (1949—68). This gives a crude death rate of 17·7 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 14·6 for the previous year.

The comparability factor given for adjusting the crude death rate (for the reasons explained under Births) is 0·79. The adjusted death rate for Keswick Urban District was, therefore, 13·98.

Comparisons of crude and adjusted death rates are shewn below :—

| | Crude. | Adjusted. |
|----------------------------------|--------|-----------|
| Death Rates, 1950—Cumberland ... | 12·6 | — |
| Rural Districts of Cumberland | 12·0 | — |
| Urban Districts of Cumberland | 13·4 | — |
| England and Wales ... | 11·6 | — |
| Keswick Urban District ... | 17·7 | 13·98 |

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

One death occurred among infants under one year of age, so that the Infantile Mortality Rate was 18·8 per 1,000 births, as compared with one death and a rate of 16·9 in 1949.

The cause of death was :—

Influenza and Broncho-pneumonia.

The Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 illegitimate births, therefore, and the Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate births were respectively 250 and nil. These latter rates were nil. and 17·8 for the previous year.

Comparisons may be given as follows :—

Infantile Mortality Rates, 1950 :—

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|------|
| Cumberland ... | ... | 35 |
| Rural Districts of Cumberland | ... | 37 |
| Urban Districts of Cumberland | ... | 33 |
| England and Wales ... | ... | 29·8 |
| Keswick Urban District | ... | 18·8 |

SENILE DEATH RATE.

62 persons had attained the age of 65 years or upwards. This number represents a Senile Death Rate of 74·7 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 70·5 for 1949.

Out of the 62 deaths :—

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 11 (6m. 5f.) | persons died between the ages of 65 and 70 years. |
| 13 (3m. 10f.) | 70 and 75 years. |
| 13 (5m. 8f.) | 75 and 80 years. |
| 13 (5m. 8f.) | 80 and 85 years. |
| 8 (2m. 6f.) | 85 and 90 years. |
| 1 (m.) | at 91 years of age. |
| 3 (f.) | at 94, 95 & 97 yrs. of age respectively. |

INQUESTS, UNCERTIFIED DEATHS, AND VIOLENCE.

In respect of deaths belonging to the district during the year, there were three inquests.

There was no "Uncertified" death.

No Coroner's certificate was received of any case where a post-mortem examination had been made, but no inquest was held.

VIOLENCE.—The death rate due to Violence (all forms) was 0·42 per 1,000 of the population in the Keswick Urban District. Below will be seen the number of deaths from Suicide, Road Traffic Accident, Other Violence and the Total Violence Deaths, together with the percentages of the total deaths from all causes, and the death rates from each per 1,000 of the population, as compared with the previous year.

| | Suicide. | | Road Traffic Acc. | | Other Violence excluding Road Traffic Acc. | | Total Violence. | |
|------------------------------------|----------|-------|----------------------|-------|---|-------|--------------------|-------|
| | 1950. | 1949. | 1950. | 1949. | 1950. | 1949. | 1950. | 1949. |
| Deaths ... | 1 | 2 | 1 | nil. | nil. | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| % of all causes | 1·20 | 2·91 | nil. | nil. | nil. | 1·47 | 2·40 | 4·41 |
| Death Rate per 1,000 population | ·21 | ·43 | nil. | nil. | nil. | ·21 | ·42 | ·64 |

The two violence deaths during the year were :—1 asphyxia, due to suicide by hanging (m. 60 yrs.) ; 1 fractured skull and brain injuries (m. 23 yrs.) due to an accident with cycle he was riding.

CANCER.

Cancer proved fatal in 10 cases as follows :—

| System. | Primary Organ. | Males. | Females. | Years. |
|--------------|--------------------|--------|----------|----------------|
| Alimentary | ... Oesophagus ... | | 1 | 60 |
| | Stomach ... | | 4 | 41, 56, 66, 81 |
| | Rectum ... | | 1 | 41 |
| Respiratory | ... Bronchus ... | 1 | | 66 |
| Glandular | ... Breast ... | | 1 | 53 |
| Reproductive | ... Uterus ... | | 1 | 59 |
| | Cervix ... | | 1 | 73 |
| | | 1 | 9 | |

This number corresponds to a cancer death rate of 2·1 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 7 deaths and a rate of 1·5 in 1949.

Approximately out of every 8 deaths of persons belonging to this district 1 was due to cancer (last year 1 in 10).

TUBERCULOSIS.

(Vide also page 14).

There were two deaths attributed to Tuberculosis :—

| | | Males. | Females. |
|--------------------|-----|--------|----------|
| Respiratory System | ... | 2 | 0 |
| Non-Pulmonary | ... | 0 | 0 |

Both were notified cases in this district.

The Tuberculosis (all forms) death rate, therefore, was 0·42 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 0·64 for 1949.

The death rate for Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System was also 0·42 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 0·64 for 1949.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

1. Part-time Medical Officer of Health.
2. One Sanitary Inspector, Mr. J. Jenkins, who was also the Surveyor and Water Engineer, is a Fellow of the Chartered Surveyors' Institute (by examination), and possesses the Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate and the Special Meat Inspectors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute. (Vide post—under Sanitary Inspection of the district).

Miss G. Robinson continued to act as assistant in the Surveyor's Office.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, 1946, the County Council is the Authority responsible for this important public service, taking over in 1948. Under their comprehensive Ambulance Scheme for Cumberland, adequate provision has been made for this district.

Speaking generally, other particulars relating to Health Services (e.g., Hospitals, Nursing, Maternity, etc.) remain unchanged.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

The town's water supply during 1950 was generally satisfactory.

The Surveyor reports that a sudden reduction in pressure in the high zone was soon rectified after a test and finding a burst pipe on private property.

Chlorination was continued during the year, and the result of four samples of water submitted for analysis proved the quality to be excellent.

In view of the very soft character of the water and the liability of plumbo-solvency, lead pipes are not used. Galvanised iron and copper service pipes are used for domestic purposes.

Concrete-lined spun-iron pipes are used when new mains are laid, in order that incrustation may be prevented. This policy over the past twenty years has given much satisfaction ; the water, of course, is not affected.

With the exception of 8 houses at High Briery, where there is a standpipe, all premises have a piped supply.

WATER MAINS.—No major extension was made during the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No major extension of the sewerage system was carried out.

At the Outfall Works.—Filters—Mr. Jenkins informs me the re-building of the three 70 feet diameter circular percolating filters was completed during the year ; the new distributors had not come to hand at the close of the year but had been promised in early 1951.

The sludge was again used by farmers and gardeners.

Closet Accommodation.—There was no change, but the owners of High Briery Cottages did engage an Architect to discuss how best to improve the eight cottages by the installation of the water-carriage system to replace the out-of-date pail closets. (Plans were actually submitted during the first month of the new year).

SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

This service has continued as before. One specially constructed Karrier Bantam motor wagon and one horse and cart is the transport used.

Salvage of waste paper.—After a lull this matter was again taken in hand and the paper collected baled and transported to Langwathby Mills.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

Mr. J. Jenkins, the Council's Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor and Water Engineer, by the end of the year came within just a few weeks of retiring (after 29 years of service). I would hereby gratefully acknowledge the invaluable assistance he has given in the making of this report and, in officially saying goodbye to a friendly colleague, would wish him many years of happiness and good health in his retirement.

Summary supplied by the Sanitary Inspector to the Medical Officer of Health, in pursuance of Article XIX of the Sanitary Officer's Order, 1926.

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|
| Premises inspected during the year | ... | ... | 164 |
| Nuisances or defects discovered | ... | ... | 158 |
| Do. do. remedied after informal notice | ... | ... | 142 |
| Do. do. do. statutory notice | ... | ... | 9 |
| Housing Inspections under Public Health or Housing Acts | | | 82 |
| Factory Inspections | ... | ... | 34 |

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The following table shows the position in this district at the end of 1950, and it will be seen that 27 premises were on the register, and 34 inspections by the Sanitary Inspector revealed 12 defects, all but one of which were remedied by the end of the year.

| Premises. | Number. | Inspections. | Defects Found. | Written Notices. | Defects Remedied. | Prosecutions |
|---|---------|--------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| (i.) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Auth. ... | 9 | 20 | 7 | 7 | 6 | — |
| (ii.) Factories not included in (i.) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority | 18 | 14 | 5 | 5 | 5 | — |
| (iii.) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ... | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Totals ... | 27 | 34 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 0 |

(Section 1 refers to Cleanliness, 2 to Overcrowding, 3 Temperature, 4 Ventilation, 6 Drainage of Floors, and 7 Sanitary Conveniences).

Outworkers—nil.

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

Periodical Inspections were made by the Sanitary Inspector. In one case arrangements were made for the installation of a W.C. and wash-basins.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

This Act came into force on 31st March, 1950, and supercedes the Rats and Mice Destruction Act. Under the new Act full responsibility devolves upon the District Council as far as the Urban area is concerned.

Much good work was undertaken by the Council employees by treatment in sewers, at the refuse tip and at other premises when complaints came to hand.

HOUSING.

The position regarding renovation and repair work generally remains difficult.

There were 10 new Council Houses completed and occupied during 1950.

Eleven private enterprise houses were completed and occupied.

1 Licence was issued for the erection of a private enterprise house.

6 Licences were issued for work in connection with existing houses (£1,381).

1 Licence was issued for work in connection with buildings other than houses (£200).

Two shops with flats above were erected at the Brigham Housing Estate of the Council and occupied during the year.

Licences were issued for :—

(a) Conversion of Crosthwaite Vicarage into two houses.

(b) „ „ St. John's „ „ „ „

(c) „ „ 24, Stanger Street into three flats.

HOUSING APPENDIX

(Ref. Circular 1728 Ministry of Health, 25th October, 1938).

STATISTICS.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

| | |
|--|-----|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... | 106 |
| (b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose ... | 134 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above (which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... | 0 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | 0 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... | 0 |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... | 0 |

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices :

| | |
|---|----|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... | 96 |
|---|----|

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

There were fourteen registered milk sellers, six of these being producers and retailers, whose premises were in the Urban District. Inspections continued to be made periodically.

A large quantity of the town's milk supply is retailed by producers whose premises are situated in the surrounding Rural District. There were 8 of such producer-retailers during 1950.

During the year a new Dairy was erected at Skiddaw Street by Mr. D. H. Thomas where Mr. Raven's T.T. milk is bottled. Mr. Thomas has a licence for bottling and selling T.T. milk.

Messrs. Edwards and Bateman have licences for selling both T.T. and pasteurised milk bottled outside the Urban Area.

9 samples of milk retailed in the town were taken during 1950 by the Sanitary Inspector and submitted for laboratory examination (Cumberland Pathological Laboratory, Carlisle), 8 being for the presence of Tubercle Baccilli, and 1 for dirt contamination; the latter sample proved satisfactory, whilst the remainder were negative to Tubercle.

On a sample of milk being reported as tubercular, investigation is made by veterinary officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

I am indebted to Mr. John Reid, Divisional Inspector for that Authority, for the following return—a nil one—of particulars of animals slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, from premises registered in the Keswick Urban District during the year 1950 :—

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|---|
| Total number of animals slaughtered | ... | ... | 0 |
| Cows in milk | ... | ... | 0 |
| Other cows or heifers | ... | ... | 0 |
| Other bovine | ... | ... | 0 |
| Types of Disease found at post mortem :— | | | |
| Tuberculosis of udder | ... | ... | 0 |
| „ with emaciation | ... | ... | 0 |
| „ with chronic cough and showing definite clinical signs | ... | ... | 0 |

The only milk (Tubercular Tested) under “ Special Designation ” produced in the Keswick Urban District was again by Mr. Martin Raven, High Hill Farm, who is also a large retailer.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—The regular use of the two licensed Slaughter-Houses by the Ministry of Food ended on 12th August. After this date dead meat was transported here from the Maryport abattoir and the Keswick Slaughter-Houses were only made use of on odd occasions for the slaughter of a privately owned pig.

Offal from the Slaughter-Houses and wet Fish Shops takes the form of a daily collection and is disposed of by the Council who make a small charge.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

| | Cattle, excluding | | | Sheep and | |
|--|----------------------|------|--------|-----------|------|
| | Cows | Cows | Calves | Lambs | Pigs |
| Number killed (if known) | 78 | 60 | 9 | 1195 | 36 |
| Number inspected | 62 | 58 | 8 | 1036 | 36 |
| <i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i> | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | — | — | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | — | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis | — | 6·9 | 37·5 | ·67 | 5·5 |
| <i>Tuberculosis only.</i> | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | — | 4 | — | — | — |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | — | 5 | — | — | — |
| Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis | — | 15·5 | — | — | — |

The following is a summary of foodstuffs for which condemnation certificates were issued by the Sanitary Inspector because of disease or putrefication, etc.:—

| | |
|--|-------|
| (a) BUTCHER MEAT :— | lbs. |
| 4 Carcasses of Beef (Tuberculosis) | 2,185 |
| 2 Carcasses of Calves (generally unfit) | 93 |
| 1 Sheep Carcase (abscess) | 39 |
| 1 Lamb Carcase (emaciation) | 16 |
| 1 Pig (dropsical) | 80 |
| Ox Livers (Cirrhosis) | 900 |
| Sheep Livers (Cirrhosis) | 2 |
| Beast Heads and Udders, Sheep Heads and Plucks, etc. (generally unfit)... | 164 |

| | |
|---|-------|
| Offals (generally unfit) | 227 |
| Imported Beef (one quarter bone taint) | 165 |
| Pork (putrefication) | 5 |
| Canned Beef (putrefication) | 84 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 3,960 |

Total—1 Ton, 15 cwts., 50 lbs.

(b) FISH :—

2 Stone.

(c) OTHER FOODS :—

7 Tins of Milk ; 47 Tins of various Meats ; 4 Tins of Salmon ;

49 Tins of Vegetables ; Other Foodstuffs, nil.

OFFAL REMOVAL.—During the year the slaughter-house proprietors decided to remove and dispose of offal from the slaughter-houses themselves. This is in contrast to a scheme that, Mr. Jenkins tells me, had worked so well in the past when the Council undertook to remove and dispose of offal daily for a very moderate charge. However after August, as already stated, the slaughtering ceased at Keswick and the offal question thereafter didn't arise.

BAKEHOUSES.—There are seven in existence, one more than the previous year. This is a small bakehouse used in connection with a shop recently built by the Council on the Brigham Housing Estate.

As usual all these premises were periodically inspected.

Four informal notices requiring limewashing were readily complied with.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.—Handling, Wrapping, etc., of Food—Bye-laws came into operation, 9th August, 1950.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OF, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The total number of Infectious Diseases notified during 1950 in the Keswick Urban District, including Pulmonary and Other Forms of Tuberculosis was 13. Excluding Measles and Whooping Cough (vide post) the number was 6 (1949—12).

Three of the notifications were of Tuberculosis.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1950.

| Disease. | Total Cases notified. | Cases notified 1950 admitted to Hospital. | Deaths of cases notified in 1950 |
|---|-----------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Measles | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| (Ages—3 yrs., 3 ; 4 yrs., 1 ; 5 to 10 yrs., 3). | | | |
| Scarlet Fever | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| (Ages—3 yrs. and 8 yrs.) | | | |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| (Age—3½ yrs.) | | | |
| Tuberculosis ;— | | | |
| Pulmonary { Malee | 0 | 0 (San.) | 0 |
| { Females | 3 | 2 „ | 0 |
| Non-Pulmonary { Males | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| { Females | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Table showing monthly incidence of Notifiable Diseases, 1950 :

| | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Total |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|
| Scarlet Fever ... | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| Measles ... | | | | | 7 | | | | | | | | 7 |
| Poliomyelitis ... | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Tuberculosis : | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pulmonary ... | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | 3 |
| Other Forms ... | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 |

From notifications received it is deduced that approximately one in every 780 persons in this district contracted a disease notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act (Chicken-pox, Measles and Whooping Cough excluded) and the Tuberculosis Regulations. (Last year's figure, 1 in 930 and in 1928 it was 1 in 177).

There were 2 cases of Scarlet Fever notified and removed to hospital with ensuing recovery. The case rate and death rate were respectively 0·42 and nil per 1,000 of the population (similarly, England and Wales, 1950—1·5 and 0·00).

There were no notifications of Diphtheria ; the case rates and death rates therefore, respectively, were nil, these rates for England and Wales (1950) being 0·02 and 0·00.

The immunisation campaign against Diphtheria was continued as before (again entailing a considerable amount of unseen work). Inoculations were given officially at the Crosthwaite Parish Room after advertising, etc., as previously.

During the year under review 2 elementary school children, 5 to 14 years, and 35 infants under 5 years were known to have been given primary injections (two at intervals of a few weeks), either by me or by their own private doctors.

115 children received a single re-inforcing dose (these are children who received the two primary doses 4 to 5 years previously).

The co-operation of the local medical practitioners, head teachers, the District Nurses and, particularly, that of the County Health Visitor, Miss Horn, is hereby gratefully acknowledged.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.—No notifications received again ; the case rate for this disease (including Puerperal Fever) was, therefore, nil per 1,000 total (live and still) births registered during the year, the same as 1949. The corresponding rate (1950) for England and Wales was 5·81.

Again no maternal death occurred—corresponding, therefore, to a Maternity Mortality Rate of nil per 1,000 total (live and still) births, the same as in 1949.

PNEUMONIA.—No notification was received ; two deaths were registered from Pneumonia (all forms).

There were again no notifications of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis and, similar to the previous year, there were none of Typhoid (including Para-Typhoid) Fever, Encephalitis Lethargica, or Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.—One case was notified in 1950 (July)—a young woman of 31 years—and removed to Crozier Lodge, Carlisle with paresis (some of which has remained permanent).

TUBERCULOSIS.—Under the Tuberculosis Regulations, only 3 cases (all fem.) of Pulmonary were notified, and none of Other Forms of Tuberculosis.

Two cases were admitted to Sanatorium during the year (both fem. Pulm.)

Three pulmonary males were transferred in to this district from elsewhere.

The following table gives the number of New Cases and Mortality (all cases) during 1950 :—

| Age. | New Cases. | | | | Deaths. | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|-----|------------------|-----|--------------|-----|------------------|-----|
| | Respiratory. | | Non-Respiratory. | | Respiratory. | | Non-Respiratory. | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Under 1 year ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 1— 5 ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 5—10 ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 10—15 ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 15—20 ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 20—25 ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 25—35 ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 35—45 ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 45—55 ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... |
| 55—65 ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 65 and upwards ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Totals ... | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

A statement regarding the total deaths from Tuberculosis will be found on page 8.

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1950 was as follows :—

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---------------|--------|----------|--------|
| Pulmonary ... | 12 | 8 | 20 |
| Non-Pulmonary | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| All Cases... | 15 | 10 | 25 |

No action has been required to be taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, which relates to powers regarding persons suffering from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory Tract, and in an infectious state and employed in connection with a dairy or the handling of milk or milk vessels.

With reference to the Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62, regarding compulsory removal to hospital or institution, no action has been taken.

NON-NOTIFIABLE ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Epidemics usually occur in conjunction with epidemics in the districts adjoining.

Influenza was prevalent and three deaths were attributed to this disease, so that the influenza death rate was '64 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with nil in 1949. (The rate, 1950, for England and Wales, was 0·10).

Re Measles and Whooping Cough (which became notifiable as from 1st November, 1939).—There were seven cases of Measles notified but none of Whooping Cough.

The case rates of Measles and Whooping Cough (as per notifications) were therefore 1·49 and nil per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 8·39 and 3·60, respectively, for all England and Wales.

No death occurred from either Measles or Whooping Cough (as in the previous year), the death rates were, therefore, again nil per 1,000 of the population respectively, as compared with 0·01 and 0·01 for England and Wales, 1950.

There were no school closures due to epidemic diseases during the year.

METEOROLOGICAL STATION.

Height above sea level, 254 ft. Lat. 54° 36' N. Long. 3° 9' W.

RETURNS FOR 1950.

| Month. | RAINFALL (48th YEAR). | | | | SUNSHINE (48th Yr.) | | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|-------|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------|------------------|--|
| | Amount. Inches. | Days. | Greatest fall on one day. | Average 48 years. | Amount. Hours. | Days. | Aver. 48 yrs. | |
| January | ... 4·33 | on 15 | ... 1·38 on 6th | ... 6·36 | ... 43·3 | on 15 | ... 34·4 | |
| February | ... 6·77 | on 21 | ... ·79 on 1st | ... 4·61 | ... 68·5 | on 18 | ... 58·3 | |
| March | ... 3·77 | on 15 | ... 1.26 on 18th | ... 3·90 | ... 101·0 | on 24 | ... 100·9 | |
| April | ... 4·76 | on 21 | ... ·94 on 7th | ... 3·24 | ... 105·2 | on 26 | ... 128·5 | |
| May | ... 2·24 | on 11 | ... ·44 on 26th | ... 3·18 | ... 197·8 | on 28 | ... 180·0 | |
| June | ... 2·63 | on 15 | ... ·45 on 29th | ... 3·26 | ... 205·1 | on 25 | ... 180·7 | |
| July | ... 3·42 | on 19 | ... ·84 on 16th | ... 4·17 | ... 151·0 | on 24 | ... 155·0 | |
| August | ... 8·06 | on 24 | ... ·74 on 15th | ... 5·07 | ... 121·8 | on 22 | ... 134·3 | |
| September | ... 14·51 | on 29 | ... 2·38 on 6th | ... 4·84 | ... 73·9 | on 21 | ... 114·6 | |
| October | ... 5·66 | on 18 | ... 1·44 on 1st | ... 6·31 | ... 70·0 | on 22 | ... 78·4 | |
| November | ... 6·77 | on 20 | ... ·97 on 28th | ... 5·45 | ... 42·8 | on 19 | ... 28·9 | |
| December | ... 2·60 | on 18 | ... ·81 on 9th | ... 6·42 | ... 28·0 | on 11 | ... 27·0 | |
| Totals | ... 65·52 | „ 226 | Average | 57·4 | 12 084 | „ 255 | 1199 6 | |

TEMPERATURES.

| TEMPERATURES. | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|-----|-----------------------------------|---------|-----|----------------------------------|---------|-----|--------------|-----------------------|------------|
| HIGHEST MAXIMUM (in screen). | | | LOWEST MINIMUM (in screen). | | | LOWEST MINIMUM (on grass). | | | Nights Frost | Wind at Gale Force | Snow Lying |
| 57·0 on | 3rd | ... | 20·0 on | 26th | ... | 13·0 on | 26th | ... | 17 | — | 2 |
| 56·0 on | 16th | ... | 23·0 on | 27th | ... | 19·0 on | 27th | ... | 11 | 3 | 2 |
| 61·0 on | 26th | ... | 28·0 on | 13th | ... | 20·0 on | 14th | ... | 12 | — | — |
| 57·0 on | 20th | ... | 25·0 on | 25th | ... | 15·0 on | 25th | ... | 9 | 1 | — |
| 75·0 on | 12th | ... | 33·0 on | 16th | ... | 25·0 on | 16th | ... | 6 | — | — |
| 85·0 on | 6th | ... | 44·0 on | 11 & 24 | ... | 37·0 on | 11 & 13 | ... | — | — | — |
| 71·0 on | 8 & 9 | ... | 45·0 on | 2 & 29 | ... | 37·0 on | 29th | ... | — | — | — |
| 70·0 on | 4th | ... | 46·0 on | 4th | ... | 41·0 on | 30th | ... | — | — | — |
| 65·0 on | 4, 9, 10 | ... | 41·0 on | 27th | ... | 34·0 on | 10th | ... | — | 3 | — |
| 64·0 on | 6th | ... | 26·0 on | 29th | ... | 20·0 on | 29th | ... | 6 | — | — |
| 53·0 on | 28th | ... | 25·0 on | 26 & 27 | ... | 18·0 on | 27th | ... | 9 | 1 | — |
| 49·0 on | 1 & 2 | ... | 15·0 on | 6th | ... | 10·0 on | 5th | ... | 23 | — | 7 |
| Totals | | | | | | | | | 93 | 8 | 11 |

| Month. | | WIND. | | | | | EARTH TEMPERATURES | | | |
|-----------|-----|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | | Calm. | North Quad- rant. | South Quad- rant. | East Quad- rant. | West Quad- rant. | High- est 1ft. | Low- est 1ft. | High- est 4ft. | Low- est 4ft. |
| January | ... | 7 | — | 11 | 1 | 12 | 47·0 | 34·3 | 46·5 | 43·0 |
| February | ... | 7 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 45·0 | 34·3 | 43·5 | 42·0 |
| March | ... | 8 | 4 | 11 | 2 | 6 | 45·0 | 42·4 | 44·9 | 42·4 |
| April | ... | 5 | 7 | 7 | — | 11 | 47·0 | 43·3 | 44·9 | 46·0 |
| May | ... | 2 | 1 | 11 | 9 | 8 | 57·0 | 48·0 | 45·8 | 50·0 |
| June | ... | 9 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 67·0 | 57·1 | 55·0 | 50·0 |
| July | ... | 5 | — | 13 | 3 | 10 | 63·0 | 59·0 | 57·4 | 55·0 |
| August | ... | 11 | 1 | 16 | — | 3 | 63·5 | 58·0 | 58·1 | 57·5 |
| September | ... | 6 | 1 | 6 | — | 17 | 58·0 | 51·8 | 58·5 | 55·0 |
| October | ... | 10 | — | 11 | — | 10 | 54·3 | 51·0 | 54·8 | 51·9 |
| November | ... | 13 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 45·0 | 26·0 | 51·5 | 46·5 |
| December | ... | 19 | 9 | 1 | 2 | — | 43·8 | 33·2 | 46·5 | 41·8 |
| Totals | ... | 102 | 33 | 108 | 21 | 101 | | | | |

ABNORMAL PRECIPITATION.

| | | |
|------------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| Nov. 2nd and 3rd, 1931 | ... | 6·16 inches in 36 hours. |
| November 3rd, 1931 | ... | 4·86 inches. |
| November 12th, 1938 | ... | 3·37 inches. |
| November 4th, 1926 | ... | 3·32 inches in 9½ hours. |
| December 24th, 1925 | ... | 3·50 inches. |
| August 2nd, 1923 | ... | 3·60 inches. |
| July 13th, 1932 | ... | 2·56 inches in 5 hours. |
| December 2nd, 1902 | ... | 3·12 inches. |

SUNDRY NOTES.

Lightning observed, 1 day.

Thunder heard. 3 days.

Thunderstorm with precipitation, nil.

Visibility less than 1,100 yards, 6 days.

More than 1 inch of rain fell on 9 days.

More than 2 inches of rain fell on 1 day.

Warmest day, 85·0 on June 6th.

Coldest night, 15·0 on December 6th.

THE WEATHER OF 1950.

The feature of the year's weather was the failure of the summer months to give us even average summer weather, and the early appearance of wintry conditions. There was skating and curling before the turn of the year, and a fall of snow early in December measured 3 inches on the meadows and lay for 4 days, a quick thaw carried it away overnight.

JANUARY Opened with a wet fortnight, but gave way to frost, which continued for the rest of the month.

FEBRUARY Rain and sleet in the first half, followed by a two-day gale.

MARCH A seasonable month, with spasmodic frosty nights. Fog on 3 days.

APRIL April showers of rain and hail. Frosty nights.

MAY A dry month, sunny days. The "Helm" was in attendance most of the month, 19 days.

JUNE A good month, long, warm sunny days. Commencing with a warm spell which gave the hottest day of the year ; 85.0 on the 6th. Twelve consecutive rainless days ; 205 hours of bright sunshine.

JULY A fair month, average conditions. Nothing outstanding.

AUGUST Usually unreliable. Rain on 24 days, much above average. Sunshine less than normal.

- SEPTEMBER An appalling month ; $14\frac{1}{2}$ inches of rain on 29 days, 5 days more than 1 inch and one day gave 2·38. Wettest month since October, 1938 (16·99 inches).
- OCTOBER First half showery, hail and rain ; remainder fine and sunny. A brilliant Aurora on 28th.
- NOVEMBER Above average rainfall. A spell of frost. A gale on the last day provided an excuse to have many of the bigger and older trees “unsafe,” enabling them to join the army of the departed. Hard frost towards the end of the month.
- DECEMBER A wintry month with 23 nights frost. Snow fell early and lay on the meadows for 4 days. A quick thaw dispersed the snow on the lower ground overnight.
- A further spell of hard frost gave skating and curling on Derwentwater and surrounding Tarns from the 14th over Christmas till the end of the month, when further falls of snow made conditions impossible for skater’s comfort.
- A feature of the month was the absence of wind ; there were 19 calm days.

TOM WILSON,

Observer to Meteorological Society.

